



**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF AUDITOR-CONTROLLER**

KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 525
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012-2706
PHONE: (213) 974-8301 FAX: (213) 626-5427

WENDY L. WATANABE
ACTING AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

ASST. AUDITOR-CONTROLLERS

ROBERT A. DAVIS
JOHN NAIMO
MARIA M. OMS

July 16, 2008

TO: Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke, Chair
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

FROM: Wendy L. Watanabe *Wendy L. Watanabe*
Acting Auditor-Controller

SUBJECT: **GROUP HOME PROGRAM MONITORING REPORT – DELIANN-
LUCILE CORPORATION - DELILU ACHIEVEMENT HOME**

We have completed a review of DeliLu Achievement Home (Group Home or Agency) operated by Deliann-Lucile Corporation. The Group Home contracts with the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the Probation Department (Probation).

DeliLu Achievement Home is a seven-bed facility, which provides care for girls ages 12-17 years who exhibit behavioral, social and emotional difficulties. At the time of the monitoring visit, the Group Home was providing services for one DCFS child, five Probation Children and one Imperial County child.

Delilu Achievement Home is located in the Second District.

Scope of Review

The purpose of the review is to determine whether the Agency is providing the services as outlined in their Program Statement. Additionally, the review covers basic child safety and licensing issues and includes an evaluation of the Agency's Program Statement, internal policies and procedures, child case records, a facility inspection and interviews with children placed in the Group Home at the time of the review. Interviews with children are designed to obtain their perspectives on the program services provided by the Agency and to ensure adherence to the Foster Youth Bill of Rights.

Summary of Findings

Generally, the Agency is providing the services as outlined in their Program Statement except for a few deficient areas.

The Group Home needs to make repairs and replace items throughout the home. The Group Home also needs to include input from all members of the treatment team in the development and implementation of the Needs and Services Plans and maintain current court authorizations and documentation of monthly psychiatric evaluations for all children taking psychotropic medications.

Attached is a detailed report of the review.

Review of Report

We discussed our report with the Agency's management. In response to the recommendations made in the report, the Agency's management completed a corrective action plan (attached) which we approved. We thank the management and staff for their cooperation during our review.

If you have any questions, please contact me or have your staff contact Don Chadwick at (626) 293-1102.

WLW:MMO:DC:CC:asl

Attachments

c: William T Fujioka, Chief Executive Officer
Patricia S. Ploehn, Director, DCFS
Susan Kerr, Senior Deputy Director, DCFS
Robert B. Taylor, Chief Probation Officer
Misha L. Slade, Board President, Deliann-Lucile Corporation
Mary Davis, Executive Director, Deliann-Lucile Corporation
Public Information Office
Audit Committee

**DeliLu Achievement Home
Los Angeles, California 90018
License Number: 198203559
Rate Classification Level: 12**

I. Facility and Environment

Method of assessment – Observation

Comments:

DeliLu Achievement Home is located in a residential community. The exterior of the Group Home is well maintained. The front and back yards are clean and adequately landscaped.

Overall, the interior of the Group Home is well maintained. The common quarters are neat and clean. There is adequate furniture and lighting in the Group Home. The Group Home provides a home-like environment. However, the blinds are stained in bathroom one.

Generally, the children's bedrooms are well maintained. The rooms are orderly and have age-appropriate personalized decorations. There is adequate furniture, lighting and storage space. Window coverings and window screens are in good repair. The beds all have a full complement of linens. Children's sleeping arrangements are appropriate. However, in bedroom three, a mattress is worn, the dresser drawers are broken and there are iron burn marks on the carpet.

The Group Home maintains age-appropriate and accessible recreational equipment. There are also board games, a TV and a DVD player. Books and resource materials, including a computer with a variety of programs, are also available.

The Group Home maintains a sufficient supply of perishable and non perishable foods.

Recommendations

1. Deliann-Lucile management:

- a. Clean or replace the blinds in bathroom one.**
- b. Replace the worn mattress in bedroom three.**
- c. Repair the dressers in bedroom three.**
- d. Repair or replace the carpet in bedroom three.**

II. Program Services

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

Children meet the Group Home's population criteria as outlined in their Program Statement. Children are assessed for needed services within thirty days of placement.

The Needs and Services Plans (NSPs) are current, comprehensive and include short and long term goals. However, input from all members of the treatment team is not included in the development or implementation of the NSPs.

Case files reflect adequate documentation to show that children are receiving treatment services.

Recommendation

2. Deliann-Lucile management include input from all members of the treatment team in the development and implementation of the Needs and Services Plans.

III. Educational and Emancipation Services

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

Children are attending school. Children are provided with educational support and resources to meet their educational needs and are progressing satisfactorily in school. The Group Home's program includes the development of children's daily living, self-help and survival skills.

Children are provided with opportunities to participate in emancipation and vocational programs as appropriate.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.

IV. Recreation and Activities

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

The Group Home provides children with sufficient recreational activities and leisure time. Children are provided with opportunities to participate in planning activities. Children also participate in extra-curricular, enrichment and social activities in which they have an interest.

The Group Home provides transportation to and from the activities.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.

V. Psychotropic Medication

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents

Comments:

Children are informed about their psychotropic medication and are aware of their right to refuse medication. Medication distribution logs are properly maintained.

Children do not have current court authorizations for the psychotropic medication that they are taking, and there is not documentation to show that children taking psychotropic medications are routinely seen by the prescribing psychiatrist.

Recommendations

3. Deliann-Lucile management:

- a. Maintain current court authorizations for children taking psychotropic medications.**
- b. Maintain documentation to show that children taking psychotropic medications are routinely seen by the prescribing psychiatrist.**

VI. Personal Rights**Method of assessment – Interviews with children****Sample size: Two****Comments:**

Children are informed about the Group Home's policies and procedures. Children report that they feel safe in the Group Home and are provided with appropriate staff supervision. Children express satisfaction with the quality of their interactions with staff and report that the staff treats them with respect and dignity.

Children report that they are assigned chores that are reasonable and not too demanding. Children are allowed to make and receive personal telephone calls, send and receive unopened mail and have private visitors. Children attend religious services of their choice.

Children report that the discipline policies are consistently enforced and that there are fair and appropriate consequences for inappropriate behavior.

Children report satisfaction with meals and snacks. Children also receive voluntary medical, dental and psychiatric care.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.

VII. Clothing and Allowance**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews****Sample size: Two****Comments:**

The Group Home provides appropriate clothing, items of necessity and the required \$50 monthly clothing allowance to children. Children are provided with opportunities to select their own clothes. Clothing provided to children is of good quality and of sufficient quantity.

The Group Home provides children with the required minimum weekly allowance. Children spend their allowances as they choose.

The Group Home provides children with adequate personal care items. Children are also encouraged and assisted in creating and maintaining photo albums/life books.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.



DeliLu Achievement Home
Mary L. Davis, Director/Administrator
1564 West 36th Place
Los Angeles, CA 90018
License # 198203559
RCL Level 12

Candace Rhue, Group Home Auditor Supervisor
Department of Auditor-Controller,
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administrator
500 West Temple Street, Room 515-A,
Los Angeles CA 90012

May 27, 2008

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

I. Facility and Environment

a. Clean or replace the blinds in bathroom one.

Implemented:

The bathroom one blinds have been cleaned.

b. Replace the worn mattress in bedroom three

Implemented:

DeliLu has purchased a new mattress and box springs for bedroom three.

c. Repair the dresser in bedroom three

Implement:

DeliLu has replaced the handles on the dresser in bedroom three.

d. Repair or replace the carpet in bedroom three.

Not implemented:

By June 30, 2008, the carpet in bedroom three will be replaced.

To ensure that the above deficiencies will not occur in the future, the facility manager will do daily/weekly checks to ascertain if any improvements are needed in the facility and/or its environment. The administrator will continually monitor to ensure that the corrective action plan is implemented.

II. Program Services

2. Deliann-Lucile Corporation management includes input from all members of the treatment team in the development and implementation of the Needs and Services Plan.

Implemented:

The Deliann-Lucile Corporation has instructed its staff to make every effort to include all treatment team members in the development and implementation of the Needs and

Services Plans. DeliLu will notify all parties (where available) including the child, her parents or representative, the social workers/probation officers of the date, time and place of the Needs and Services meeting.

Three staff members attended the recent May, 2008 Needs and Services Plan training provided by the Department of Children and Family Services. Staff in attendance included: the Administrator, the LCSW, and the Program Coordinator.

The LCSW will notify all parties in advance of the NSP meeting and will obtain signatures of those in attendance. She will document our efforts to include all parties at the NSP meetings. The administrator will ensure in advance of the meetings that all parties representing the clients are notified.

V. Psychotropic Medication

- a. Maintain current court authorization for children taking psychotropic medication.**

Implemented:

DeliLu will work diligently with the psychiatrist and the social worker/probation officer to obtain the required court authorization for psychotropic medications.

- b. Maintain documentation to show that children taking psychotropic medication are routinely seen by prescribing psychiatrists.**

Implemented:

DeliLu's clients have regular monthly meetings with the prescribing psychiatrist. The documentation is recorded on the DSS form "Verification of Mental Health Treatment Services" and maintained in a notebook in the group home office.

DeliLu's facility manager will make contact with the Department of Children and Family Services social workers/Probation Officers regarding psychiatric medication authorizations to ensure that the proper documents are on hand at the group home. Our prescribing psychiatrist has submitted the appropriate forms to the Court for approvals. The administrator will confirm receipt of documents and have placed in appropriate file.

